REMARKS

This Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated July 5, 2007. Claims 44 and 52 have been amended in this response. No new matter has been introduced as a result of the amendments. Support for the amendments may be found, for example, in paragraphs [0114], [0121] and [0133] of the present specification. Entry of the amendments and favorable reconsideration is earnestly requested.

Claims 44-59 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hochmuth (US Pub. 2002/0075319) in view of Wu et al. (US Patent 6,633,924). In light of the present amendments, the Applicant traverses these rejections.

For the purposes of explanation only, the amendments clarify that the claimed desktop environment allows a user to reproduce various application programs that relate to a specific date and/or time. As an example, the claimed configuration allows a user to reproduce the state of a desktop at a time in which a particular piece of electronic mail was received, and also allows access the file of the work which was being performed at that time. As another example, the claimed configuration allows a user to retrieve a desired image photographed when certain text was being written. In these examples, an operation of several stages extending across a plurality of application programs is executed.

Regarding independent claims 44 and 52, the cited art, alone or in combination, fails to teach or suggest "a transmitting device for transmitting time information when the state of application data for any of the application programs is changed, *wherein the time information is processed according to the type of application program in which the state of application data has changed*; a receiving device for receiving the time information corresponding to at least one of a day and time; a time setting means *for setting at least one of desired day and time in which the state of one or more of the application programs is to be reproduced*; and a controller for *locating, based on the set received time information, a desktop environment containing the state of application data from the stored plurality of different sets of said application data at about at least one of said set day and time, and for reproducing the state of the application program by selecting the application data in the located desktop environment.*"

Regarding Hochmuth, the document discloses a desktop environment, where different objects are stored in the desktop (FIG. 3). The objects refer to icons that are related to a file or application program, where a log monitors access to the objects, and records a time stamp that indicates when the object was accessed ([0021-23]). The computer in Hochmuth monitors the number of times an object is accessed over a period of time, and, if the access number exceeds a predetermined threshold, a shortcut icon is created for the file ([0029]). However, it is clear from the disclosure in Hochmuth that the time information is not processed according to the type of application program in which the state of application data has changed - all of the time stamps in Hochmuth appear to be processed the same way, regardless of the type of application being accessed.
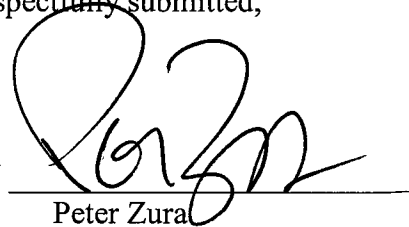
More importantly, Hochmuth does not teach or suggest the feature of setting at least one of desired day and time in which the state of one or more of the application programs is to be reproduced. As discussed above, the disclosure in Hochmuth is directed to the creation of new shortcut icons, and appears to have nothing to do with the reproduction of application programs at a set time via a desktop environment. Additionally, it follows that Hochmuth does not teach the location and reproduction of a desktop environment for a set time. The time stamps in Hochmuth merely provide a time period in which the computer counts the number of accesses to a file or application program.

Wu does not solve the deficiencies of Hochmuth, discussed above. Additionally, there is no apparent reason why one having ordinary skill and creativity in the art would combine the two references in the manner suggested in the Office Action. For one, the handling of objects in Wu relates to a synchronization of objects *between two computers*, such as a handheld device and a desktop computer utilizing a general-purpose PIM (see title, col. 1, lines 15-55; col. 3, lines 18-23). Furthermore, the "objects" referred to in Wu refer to standard data objects that are not related to a particular desktop environment (col. 1, lines 41-55), but are merely synchronized using a synchronization manger (82) to transfer matching or updated objects between devices (col. 9, lines 35-47; col. 10, lines 24-63). For at least these reasons, Applicant submits the rejection is traversed and should be withdrawn. Since claims 45-51 and 53-59 depend on independent claims 44 and 52, they are allowable for the same reasons given above.

In light of the above, the Applicant submits that all the claims are patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If any additional fees are due in connection with this application as a whole, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fees from deposit account no. 02-1818.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: October 5, 2007